CHURCH HISTORY

Chapter 22 - The Church Is Convulsed, AD 1517-1521

1. *Luther Is Summoned to Rome*
    a. *Luther's theses struck the pope some hard blows in two tender spots: his power and his purse; the pope summoned Luther on July 1518 after learning that the General of Augustinian Order failed to silence him, should Luther have gone to Rome – it would be his Death warrant for heresy is a serious offense worthy of death*
    b. *Luther had a faithful, wise, and powerful friend in Elector Frederick Cajetan Fails to Silence Luther; Frederick brought all his influence to bear in Rome to have the papal summons canceled*
2. *Cajetan Fails to Silence Luther*
    a. *Cajetan, a legate of the Pope was sent to attend a diet in Augsburg empowering him to order Luther to appear before him but failed to dissuade Luther to recant, now requested the pope to settle the points in dispute once for all by an official pronouncement against the theses*
3. *Von Miltitz Is Seemingly More Successful*
    a. *Von Miltitz was able to talk to Luther and the latter promised not to talk about Indulgences; the pope sent a friendly letter to Luther on March 29, 151 inviting him again to Rome*
4. *Eck Challenges Luther to a Debate*
    a. *He challenged Luther to debate with him on the question of the supremacy of the pope*
    b. *nine months until the debate with Eck in July, 1519, Luther spent in hard study, cited the Donation & Decretals*
5. *The Leipzig Debate*
    a. *One result of the Leipzig debate was that Luther greatly strengthened his cause among his followers. He made them feel certain that their position was right. Luther also won many new followers, one of whom was Martin Bucer, who became an important leader of the Reformation, and who helped to shape the views of John Calvin.*
6. *The Storm Gathers*
    a. *Luther strengthened his position against the Roman Catholic Church through many works such as* On God's Works *in May, 1520 supporting that man is saved by faith alone;*
    b. *was influenced by some writings between the Leipzig debate in July, 1519, and the Diet of Worms in April, 1521 such as the works of Huss, and Lorenzo Valla, who proved beyond the possibility of contradiction, that the "Donation of Constantine" was a forgery*
7. *Excommunication*
    a. *On June 15, 1520, Pope Leo ratified and signed the bull excommunicating Luther*
    b. *Luther came out with a tract: Against the Execrable Bull of Antichrist.*
8. *Three Great Reformation Treatises*
    a. *Luther used the press as a means of molding public opinion. It was chiefly by means of the press that Luther gained the support of vast numbers of followers, not only in his own country of Germany but also far beyond its border*
    b. *The Three Great Reformation Treatises:* To the Christian Nobility of Germany, The Babylonian Captivity of the Church, The Liberty of a Christian Man
9. *Luther Burns the Pope's Bull*
    a. *On December 10, 1529, a large crowd of Students, Professors, and Citizens assembled outside the walls of the city of Wittenberg and Luther personally burned the copy of the Bull*
10. *Lather Is Summoned By the Emperor*
    a. *Pope Leo appealed for help to Charles V (a devout Catholic) to bring Luther to obedience or to the stake and prevailed to summon Luther before the Diet - the council of German rulers – in the city of Worms*
11. *The Diet of Worms*
    a. *Protected by the safe-conduct of the emperor, Luther started for Worms on April 2, 1521. Luther believed that he was going to his death; At four o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, April 17, Luther appeared before the Diet*
    b. *"Are those your writings; and do you wish to retract them, or do you adhere to them and continue to assert them?"*
12. *The Political Question Is Settled*
    a. *The Catholic emperor and all the German princes, also the Catholic princes, sided with Luther against the pope*
13. *Luther's Second Appearance Before the Diet*
    a. *"If the emperor desires a plain answer, I will give it to him. It is impossible for me to recant unless I am proved to be wrong by the testimony of Scripture. My conscience is bound to the Word of God. It is neither safe nor honest to act against one's conscience. Here I stand. God help me. I cannot do otherwise."*
14. *Luther Is Carried Off to Wartburg Castle*
    a. *Luther was ordered to leave Worms and to return to Wittenberg. He was forbidden to preach. It was planned that after the safe-conduct expired he would be seized and put to death as a pestilent heretic*
    b. *in the heart of the forest of Mohra, five masked riders suddenly swept down upon him, lifted him out of the cart, and rode off with him back in the direction of Eisenach*
    c. *Frederick caught Luther to be placed safe in the Castle Wartburg where he stayed for 10 months writing for the "storm" to quite down*